Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 through 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element has thereon an outwardly extending flange engaging the free terminal end of the fastening part.

35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 34 wherein the reinforcing element has therein a tapered opening for receiving the shaft, the tapered opening having a wide end and a narrow end, and wherein the flange is adjacent the wide end of the tapered opening.

36. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 35 wherein the tapered opening has a smooth inner surface.

37. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 36 wherein the smooth inner surface is frustoconical.

38. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element is annular.

39. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the inner surface of the fastening part is cylindrical.

40. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the inner surface of the fastening part has a polygonal contour, and wherein the outer surface of the reinforcing element has a polygonal contour complementary with the contour of the inner surface of the fastening part.

41. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element is attachable to a shaft having a conical end.

42. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element is fit into the fastening part via a press fit.

43. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element can be axially caulked.

44. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the supporting ring is a turned or diecast metal part.

45. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the supporting ring is an insert, around which it is possible to injection mold with plastic to manufacture the fastening part.

46. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~33~~ 48 wherein the reinforcing element is symmetrical on any diameter.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (New) A windshield wiper device for a motor vehicle with a wiper arm, the device comprising a fastening part for attaching the wiper arm to an end area of a shaft, the device also comprising a reinforcing element for optimal transmission of torque, the reinforcing element being a supporting ring centered on an axis, the reinforcing element having opposite ends spaced in the direction of the axis, the fastening part completely surrounding the reinforcing element, the fastening part including a wall having an inner surface defining a non-tapered opening through the fastening part, the opening being centered on the axis, the wall of the fastening part being straight and extending to a free terminal end, and the reinforcing element extending through the opening, the reinforcing element including a wall having a non-tapered outer surface engaging the inner surface of the fastening part, the wall of the reinforcing element extending along the wall of the fastening part and at least to the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part, the opposite ends of the reinforcing element not engaging the fastening part.

49. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the wall of the reinforcing element extends axially beyond the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part and radially outwardly of the inner surface of the wall of the fastening part.

50. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the reinforcing element has a first portion positioned within the opening defined by the inner surface of the wall of the fastening part, the first portion having a substantially constant first diameter equal to a diameter of the opening, and a second portion positioned axially beyond the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part and having a second diameter greater than the diameter of the opening.

51. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the outer surface of the wall of the reinforcing element engaging the inner surface of the wall of the fastening part is substantially straight.

52. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the wall of the fastening part has an end opposite the free terminal end, and wherein the wall of the reinforcing member extends along the wall of the fastening part at least to the end opposite the free terminal end.

53. (New) A windshield wiper device for a motor vehicle with a wiper arm, the device comprising a fastening part for attaching the wiper arm to an end area of a shaft, the device also comprising a reinforcing element for optimal transmission of torque, the reinforcing element being a supporting ring centered on an axis, the reinforcing element having opposite ends spaced in the direction of the axis, the fastening part completely surrounding the reinforcing element, the fastening part including a wall having an inner surface defining a non-tapered opening through the fastening part, the opening being centered on the axis, the wall of the fastening part being straight and extending to a free terminal end, and the reinforcing element extending through the opening, the reinforcing element including a wall having a non-tapered outer surface engaging the inner surface of the fastening part, the wall of the reinforcing element extending along the wall of the fastening part, an end portion of the wall of the reinforcing element extending axially beyond the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part and radially along the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part, the opposite ends of the reinforcing element not engaging the fastening part.

54. (New) A windshield wiper device for a motor vehicle with a wiper arm, the device comprising a fastening part for attaching the wiper arm to an end area of a shaft, the device also comprising a reinforcing element for optimal transmission of torque, the reinforcing element being an annular supporting ring centered on an axis, the reinforcing element having opposite ends spaced in the direction of the axis, the fastening part completely surrounding the reinforcing element, the fastening part including a wall having an inner surface defining a non-tapered opening through the fastening part, the opening being centered on the axis, the wall of the fastening part being straight and extending to a free terminal end, and the reinforcing element extending through the opening, the reinforcing element including a wall having a non-tapered outer surface engaging the inner surface of the fastening part, the wall of the reinforcing element extending along the wall of the fastening part and axially beyond the free terminal end of the wall of the fastening part, the opposite ends of the reinforcing element not engaging the fastening part, the reinforcing element having therein a tapered opening for receiving the shaft, the tapered opening being frustoconical and having a wide end and a narrow end, and the tapered opening having a smooth inner surface, the reinforcing element having thereon an outwardly extending flange engaging the free terminal end of the fastening part, the flange being adjacent the wide end of the tapered opening.